



Clean Energy Future Committee DRAFT Meeting Minutes

For Approval at the July 22nd CEFC Meeting

June 24, 2022
8:15 – 9:30 a.m.
Virtually Conducted

Members present: Shelly Dein, Coralie Cooper (as chair), Dave Levy, Jim DiTullio, Ryan Katofsky, Talia Fox, Dan Amstutz, Pasi Miettinen.

Also attending: Susan Keane, Sandra Frawley

Members not present: Nellie Aikenhead, David Morgan, Eric Helmuth, Marc Breslow.

Coralie Cooper convened the meeting at 8:15 am and read a brief statement noting the Massachusetts legislation that permits virtual meetings.

1. Review and Approve Meeting Minutes

The Committee reviewed the minutes from the May 27, 2022 meeting. C. Cooper asked for any corrections, additions, or changes to the draft minutes. Shelly Dein said that in the discussion of the solar bylaw the classification of buildings that are exempt is not "very old" buildings. The classification is building roofs that can't support the weight of a solar array. S. Dein moved to approve the minutes and Ryan Katofsky seconded. The Committee then approved the May 25th meeting minutes.

2. Remote Meeting Update

Talia Fox provided an update on the hybrid meeting pilot. The MA senate amended the provision extending remote meeting allowance. It needs to go through another conference meeting and be signed by the governor. There is a good chance the remote meeting allowance will be extended through 2023. CEFC will still participate in the hybrid project in the fall. Members of the Committee would be able to be remote. Jim DiTullio said he thinks something will happen before July 31st, but it is uncertain and suggested deciding about skipping the July meeting 72 hours before the meeting. Dan Amstutz suggested reserving a meeting room for the July meeting, just in case the CEFC needs it.

3. Town Meeting Vote on Net Zero Resolution and Next Steps

Dave Levy provided an update on the Town Meeting vote on the net zero stretch code. The net zero resolution passed by a large margin. Some TMMs reached out to D. Levy to express support. He added the work now begins to ensure a strong net zero code is

finalized by DOER. S. Dein received a call from the State asking to schedule a meeting room in early August for a meeting on the proposed net zero stretch code. She said this alleviates our concern that the proposal wouldn't be issued until the end of December, but it looks like the proposal will come out soon. Pasi Miettinen stated the group in Arlington that is active on the net zero stretch code should give an update at the next meeting. C. Cooper stated Pat Hanlon has been the lead for the CEFC workgroup on the net zero stretch code and we can ask him to present on next steps. T. Fox said Adam Chapdelaine sent letters announcing the passing of the resolution to our delegation and DOER Commissioner Woodcock and Energy Efficiency Division Director McCarey. S. Dein suggested scheduling the July meeting around the release of the draft stretch code. T. Fox heard that the draft language might come out in July. T. Fox is going to schedule a next meeting of the workgroup to discuss Town Meeting strategy for passing the opt in stretch code and will add D. Levy to the workgroup. D. Levy asked if a 2/3 majority is needed at Town Meeting, if the ARB needs to approve prior to Town Meeting, and if we would bring this to Town Meeting in April of 2023. D. Levy volunteered to help with Town Meeting legwork. S. Dein said we should have several months after the finalization of the code and the next Town Meeting. T. Fox will look into the timing of adoption of the opt in stretch code and the other questions around procedure for adopting the net zero stretch code.

4. Updates from Working Groups

Electrify Arlington – T. Fox stated the workgroup is meeting bi-weekly. EA website is now live, and we need a press release to announce. We have confirmed a partnership with All-In Energy, Abode, and the Heat Smart Alliance. Heat Smart and Abode will be training Arlington's volunteer coaches. We are undertaking some marketing efforts including a logo, an ACMi video series, a Town Day table for Electrify Arlington, and a press release. We need support from the CEFC to move this forward. Town Day is September 17th. There will also be a Town notice about Electrify Arlington. Please let T. Fox know if there are any errors on the website. R. Katofsky and D. Levy expressed congratulations for the website launch.

Fleet Plan – C. Cooper stated that T. Fox and she have been working off of Ken Pruitt's preliminary work on fleet plan. K. Pruitt had begun by looking at Concord's fleet plan. T. Fox and C. Cooper talked to the staff person who is responsible for the Cambridge fleet plan and is also an Arlington resident. They discussed how to get started on the Arlington plan. Cambridge has not yet put a plan in place but is hoping to release one soon. Cambridge has been working on getting chargers installed; the DPW is renovating their building and is putting in fast chargers. The Police Department Interceptor electric vehicles will be purchased. Mack LR electric garbage trucks are purchased and charging on level 2 chargers. The City is exploring how to get charging in without having to do major construction work. C. Cooper and T. Fox will start with inventory of Arlington fleet, look at purchases of vehicles, infrastructure possibilities. T. Fox added the initial thought was to pass a Town fleet policy, but she was advised we need a solid understanding of fleet since the Finance Committee will be asking questions about costs. We will start by answering some technical and cost questions. S. Dein said Arlington has purchased passenger electric vehicles, which is fine, but noted that typically municipal passenger vehicles travel 3,000 to 4,000 miles per year which is

very low and thus don't have a big GHG impact. We'll get a much larger reduction in GHGs by purchasing electric heavy-duty trucks. D. Levy suggested obtaining a list of vehicles owned by the Town. Kristen DeFrancisco maintains a list of vehicles for insurance purposes.

Municipal buildings bylaw – T. Fox has instituted a more regular meeting of the workgroup, which comprises Jim Feeney, C. Cooper, T. Fox, and two members of Permanent Town Building Committee. S. Dein shared a model policy for municipal buildings. T. Fox will be working on re-drafting the language the CEFC had created over the past year. The CEFC would bring the language to Town Meeting in April. C. Cooper added that the opt in stretch code may make the bylaw moot, but we should press forward on the municipal bylaw because it doesn't look like the opt in code will require all-electric. She encouraged the CEFC to move ahead with the bylaw. If we end up with an all-electric opt in code, we can table the municipal bylaw.

Historic districts commission guidelines – we have working group with Nellie Aikenhead of the CEFC and Charles Barry from the Historic Districts Commission. They will work on and eventually share language aimed at ensuring the guidelines are not limiting net zero renovations.

5. Net Zero Action Plan Implementation Priorities for 2022/23

T. Fox showed slides on priorities for NZAP implementation for the coming year. The discussion was a follow-up from the June meeting discussion on the same topic. The three factors determining the level of priority last year were: 1) priority level in NZAP; 2) how large of a GHG impact an action has; and 3) how much effort the action requires/how much bandwidth the CEFC has to implement. The priorities chosen last year were Electrify Arlington, stretch code advocacy work, commercial PACE, Connect Arlington, zero emission fleet policy plan, and ACE default increase. Some of these are complete, such as ACE, and some are ongoing priorities. T. Fox showed additional efforts – NZB2, NZB8 (historic district guidelines), gas leaks. David Morgan is now the Town lead for that group. ZEM2 – public charging plan – is also a high priority. During the last meeting we discussed a number of additional items such as bi-directional charging, charging for renters, and tracking NZAP status and metrics.

T. Fox asked if the list of priorities make sense to the CEFC. D. Levy said if we have to pick two items, we should work on the opt in stretch code adoption at Town Meeting and Electrify Arlington. P. Miettinen said we need to get energy and muscle behind the initiatives we have started, such as Electrify Arlington. D. Amstutz noted there was a recent webinar about vehicle charging sponsored by AAA of Massachusetts talking about the bi-partisan infrastructure law which is related to ZEM3 and vehicle electrification. MA is receiving \$55 – \$60 million for DC fast charging around major transportation corridors. The State is looking at various corridors such as Route 2. This is important to keep abreast of in the coming year, and D. Amstutz will keep informed and report back. S. Dein said the State has already completed a large RFP for DC fast charging. Near Arlington heights would be a good area to place for DC fast charging, near the commercial district. Similarly, East Arlington in the commercial district would also be a good location for DC fast charging.

R. Katofsky asked about the deep energy retrofits. National Grid was piloting a deep energy retrofit – he asked if we should check in with utilities to see if there is something we can promote through Electrify Arlington. T. Fox is talking to National Grid about a grant program where they provide support for retrofits and can report back to the group on the conversation. She asked if there are additional efforts the CEFC should consider, such as talking to contractors about deep energy retrofits.

S. Dein said the opt in net zero stretch code may be a lot of work and we shouldn't underestimate that – the CEFC may need to devote considerable work to that in the coming year.

R. Katofsky stated education on energy retrofits is going to be key.

S. Dein made a motion to adjourn and R. Katofsky seconded the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 9:30am.

Submitted by Coralie Cooper.